

The 2003 FIRST Robotics Competition

February 26, 2003

TEAM UPDATE

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PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS TO OTHER TEAM MEMBERS!

FIRST will provide rules updates and other important information to teams via the FIRST web site at:

<http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/2003/docs.htm>

Please check the team updates portion of the web site on a regular basis to insure that your team does not miss critical information about the 2003 FIRST Robotics Competition. FIRST recommends assigning at least one team member the duty of keeping up to date on all team updates. This person or group should be responsible for distributing information contained in team updates to the appropriate team members.

QUESTIONS?

MESSAGE BOARD

In order to post questions on our message board at:

<http://jive.ilearning.com/index.jsp>

- You must reference the particular section of the manual you are questioning or your question will not be answered. This will help us give you the most accurate answer possible.
- Limit each message board submittal to ask only 1 question at a time. This will allow us to categorize your question and will enhance our ability to respond in a timely manner.
- Please state your inquiry as a question. Some submittals have been lengthy and we have had a great deal of trouble trying to find the question buried within.
- Do not reply to posted messages. FIRST is the only official source for answers. Your replies to posted questions slow down the moderating of this forum. Replies other than from FIRST will be deleted.

AUTODESK, INC.

For all inquiries, please e-mail:

first.entries@autodesk.com

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THE GAME

There are none for this update.

THE ROBOT

2003 ROBOT INSPECTION PROCESS PILOT

FIRST is piloting a new process for the 2003 season whereby we will utilize team people to assist with robot inspections. FIRST feels this has the potential to improve the speed and quality of robot inspections but will only work if we all practice “gracious professionalism.” Everyone involved must treat one another with respect.

The time commitment is late Wednesday afternoon and evening (about 8:00 PM being the latest), all day Thursday as this is the big inspection day (from 9:00 AM until 6:00 PM), and occasionally Friday morning from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM for the 1 or 2 that didn't pass on Thursday. Ideally, we will inspect 3-4 robots (rookie, mid-level experience, and veteran) Wednesday evening / Thursday morning as part of the inspector training. The robots chosen should represent the range of electrical, mechanical, and pneumatics.

For those team members that are interested in assisting with robot inspections, please read the procedure below and, in particular, item 1 to see if you qualify as an inspector. If you qualify and could help us, we would like to know, in advance, for which events you are available.

Please use the FIRST website to sign up as a **Robot Inspector** by following the link below:

<http://www.usfirst.org/volunteer>

INSPECTION PROCEDURE

1. All robot inspections will be done by a four-person team consisting of 2 students with at least two years of competition experience and 2 adult mentors with at least two years of competition experience (you must have competed in at least the **2001 and 2002** seasons). Smaller inspection teams may be necessary depending on the number of people that volunteer to inspect. In no case will teams be comprised of just students.
2. Members of each inspection team must come from different FRC teams and may not inspect their own team.
3. Any team failing inspection may challenge the decision of the inspector if they disagree with the interpretation of the rules. A second team will be sent to

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- review the decision.
4. If the second set of inspectors cannot reach consensus, the final decision will be made by the FIRST engineering staff member on site. This person should review the reason for disagreement with both inspection teams and the on site IFI representative.
 5. Each team must supply an itemized list of purchase components at the time of event registration that will support the following:
 - Additional robot components \$3,500 max / \$400 individual component max and includes the electronics in the next bullet;
 - Additional electronics \$200 max / \$100 individual component.
 6. The final decision will rest with Hut Snow and the FIRST advisors via phone call if necessary.

INSPECTION CHALLENGE PROCESS

FIRST realizes that some robots pass inspection when, in fact, maybe they shouldn't have. If a robot passes inspection BUT another team member/team feels the robot is not legal for some reason, FIRST will pilot a new process this year.

A team that is questioning a robot's inspection must note the team number and violation on an index card available at Pit Admin and deposit the card in a box there. The card can be anonymous. The cards will be reviewed periodically during inspection day and resolved.

KIT OF PARTS

There are none for this update.

FIELD / CORRECTIONS

There are none for this update.

AUTODESK

There are none for this update.

ADMINISTRATIVE / MATERIAL HANDLING / SHIPPING

There are none for this update.

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